



Deployable SARC Training



Module 1: Roles and Responsibilities

Learning Objectives

- Explain and discuss the roles and responsibilities of the Deployable Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)
- Demonstrate an understanding of the Deployable SARC's role in reporting restricted and unrestricted reports of sexual assault
- Describe the Deployable SARC's role in reporting and documenting incidents of sexual assault within the chain-of-command
- Discuss ways to address the challenges of implementing the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program in theater



SARC RESPONSIBILITIES



- Ensure:
 - Overall Program Management (within their area of responsibility)
 - Data collection
 - Reporting to the chain of command
 - Services appropriate are available
 - Victims receive appropriate support services
- Train and certify
- Provide oversight to victim advocates for all sexual assault cases
- Evaluate program effectiveness
- Maintain liaisons and works systems issues (systems advocacy)
- Assign UVAs to all identified sexual assault victims.



Checklist for Fulfilling SARC Responsibilities



- ___ Familiarize yourself with available resources and points of contact for sexual assault incidents.
- ___ Consider implementing MOU/MOA with non-military agencies.
- ___ Ensure all sexual assault victims sign the Victim Preference Statement.
- ___ Monitor that all restricted and unrestricted reports are reported and handled appropriately,
- ___ Track, at a minimum, training requirements, of UVAs status, and rotation dates.
- ___ Provide training to UVAs and senior level command.
- ___ Publish and maintain on-call roster of trained UVAs available to assist victims of sexual assault.
- ___ Advertise and distribute information about the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program.
- ___ Ensure all necessary data is collected and appropriately maintained.
- ___ Coordinate and serve on the SARB.



Points of Contact for Sexual Assault Incidents

[Check and complete based on your area of responsibility]

- Command: _____
- Installation SARC: _____
- CID: _____
- Theater of Operations Senior Mission Commander (or designated representative): _____
- Unit Victim Advocate(s): _____
- _____
- Combat Support Hospital (CSH): _____
 - Sexual Assault Care Coordinator at CSH: _____
 - Sexual Assault Clinical Provider at CSH: _____
- Chaplain: _____
- Judge Advocate General (JAG): _____
- Provost Marshal (PMO): _____
- Law Enforcement: _____
- Mental Health: _____
- Public Affairs Officer (PAO): _____
- Other Local Resources: _____



Restricted vs. Unrestricted

- What information is okay to share and with whom?
- “Need to Know”- Who needs to know what?
- What is the SARC’s responsibility with regards to restricted and unrestricted reports?



Scenario #1

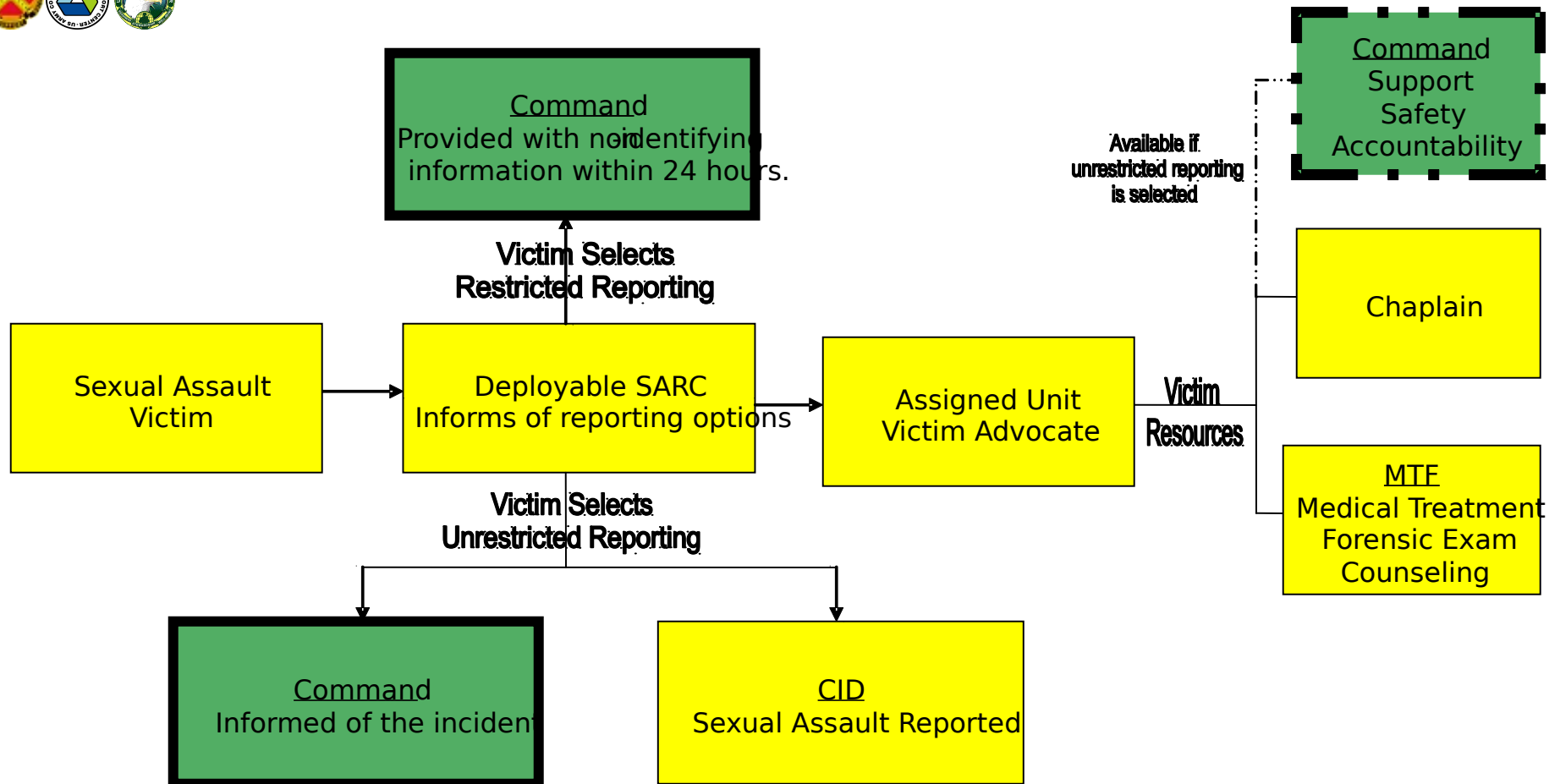
A 20 year old male contacts you as the SARC and informs you that he was sexually assaulted by 3 men. The victim stated that he did not get a good look at them but he is pretty sure they were in Army uniform.

In your role as the SARC explain the **reporting options** the victim has.

1. What additional information, if any, do you need to know to appropriately advise the victim about who you are required to inform?
2. The victim wants medical treatment and wants to report the physical assault but does not want to report the sexual component. How do you handle this?
3. What can you share with the CO if the victim selects restricted reporting?



Sexual Assault Deployed Environment



11 Apr 2005



Victim Preference Statement

- Provided to all sexual assault victims
- Maintained by the Deployable SARC until it can be provided to the Installation SARC



Collecting and Maintaining Data

- Unit Victim Advocates provide data to the Deployable SARC
- Deployable SARC provides data to the Installation SARC
- Data rolled up through Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, Deputy Chief of Staff, Army G-1



Building Liaisons

- SARCs are “center of gravity” and need to work with system to improve victim services
- SARCs need to build strong liaisons with:
 - Army Criminal Investigation Command
 - Provost Marshal (PMO)
 - Law enforcement (Military or Civilian)
 - Medical services (CSH)
 - Chaplains
 - JAG Officers
 - Behavioral Health/Social Work services



Liaisons with Law Enforcement

- PMO and CID often first contact point with victim
- SARC should create open dialogue with PMO/CID in order to bridge gaps between advocates and law enforcement



Liaisons with Medical Facilities

- SARC needs to be familiar with MEDCO Regulation No. 40-36, Medical Facility Management of Sexual Assault
 - In Theater, sexual assault care provided at Division level, Combat Support Hospital (CSH).
 - Sexual Assault Care Coordinator (SACC) monitors the healthcare management of all identified sexual assault patients at MTFs, and assists the SACP
 - Sexual Assault Clinical Provider (SACP) is responsible for primary medical management of all sexual assault patients



Scenario #2

A 22-year old soldier reports to CID that she was sexually assaulted the previous night in her tent by another soldier in her unit. During the investigation, the UVA becomes frustrated and asserts that CID is not “taking the case seriously.” Angered by the advocate’s remarks, CID contacts the Deployable SARC to discuss concerns about the advocate.

- How should the SARC respond to the CID?
- What responsibilities does the SARC have to investigate the matter?
- If the SARC feels the concerns are unwarranted, how should the SARC respond?



Scenario #3

A 19-year old victim shows up at the Combat Support Hospital (CSH) and discloses that she was sexually assaulted by several soldiers the previous day while on her way to the restrooms. She appears scared and tearful, and says that she isn't sure if she wants to report the incident but she wants the doctor to "check her out and make sure everything is ok."

- What options does this victim have? Who is responsible for informing her of her options?
- What are the medical services available with each option?
- Who will be the primary individuals within the CSH responsible for her medical care? What role do they have in follow-up care?



Additional Liaisons

- SARC can enhance program by collaborating with:
 - Public Affairs Officer (PAO)
 - Advertise program
 - Field questions from the media
- What are some concerns or issues to be aware of with embedded reporters?



Module 2: Victim Advocate Screening



Learning Objectives

- Identify “screen out” factors for Unit Victim Advocates (UVAs)
- Identify fundamental criteria, or qualification standards, for the selection and service of a UVA
- Explain the importance of case review and management to the success of a Victim Advocate Program
- Describe ways to ensure continuity of care for victims
- List three ways to help a UVA cope with vicarious trauma



Screen Out Factors

- Recent victims of sexual assault
- Sexual assault/domestic violence offenders (any history)
- Individuals with rigid biases
- Boundary issues
- Limited availability

What are some other “red flags” ?



Advocate Exercise

The two soldiers in the front of the room have been assigned as UVAs. They are reporting that they are trained and ready to response when needed.

Conduct an informal screening. Are there any red flags?



Qualification Standards for Unit Victim Advocates



Check your UVAs to ensure that they meet the Army's following minimum standards for service:

- ___ Be recommended by the chain of command. The first LTC or battalion level equivalent or higher-level in the chain of command will approve the recommendation.
- ___ Be deployable.
- ___ Be able to respond to a sexual assault incident at anytime when on call.
- ___ Have outstanding duty performance, as evidenced by a review of the individual's evaluation reports.
- ___ Demonstrate stability in personal affairs. Soldier will not have a recent history of domestic violence or severe personal problems including significant indebtedness, excessive use of alcohol, or any use of illegal drugs.
- ___ Be required to obtain a waiver from HQDA in instances where individuals have withdrawn from the Human Reliability or Personal Reliability Program during the 2 years preceding the nomination.
- ___ Must not have been punished under the provisions of the UCMJ during the 5 years preceding the nomination.
- ___ Must be deployable with a minimum of 1 year retainability in the unit. For short tour areas, UVA must have a minimum of 6 months retainability in the unit. This requirement is non-waiverable.
- ___ The UVA will be an NCO (SSG or higher), or Officer (1LT/WO2 or higher).
- ___ Must be appointed on orders to the collateral duty of UVA.
- ___ Must be available to attend the SARB as required when serving at the installation.



Selecting Unit Victim Advocates



Questions to Consider:

1. Do any of your UVAs exhibit the “screen out” factors for victim advocates?
2. What screening measures will you be using to evaluate the performance of your advocates?
3. If an advocate does not meet either the Army’s minimum qualification standards, or exhibits a “screen out” factor, what are the appropriate steps that you should take within the chain-of command to address the issue?



Module 3: Case Management Skills

Learning Objectives

- Define the purpose of the Sexual Assault Review Board (SARB)
- Identify key members of the SARB
- Explain the SARC's role on the SARB



Sexual Assault Review Board

- SARB provides executive oversight, procedural guidance, and feedback regarding installation's sexual assault program
- Purpose of SARB is to improve processes, system accountability, and victim's access to services



SARB Members

- SARC
- Victim Advocate(s)
- Army Criminal Investigation Command
- Staff Judge Advocate (SJA)
- Provost Marshal, or representative
- Law enforcement (military or civilian)
- Chaplain or representative
- SACP or SACC
- Chief, Behavioral Health
- Victims' and Offenders' Commander
- Others as needed (i.e., victim witness liaisons, etc.)



SARC Responsibilities for SARB

- Defined by the Senior Mission Commander, could include:
 - Schedule meetings at least monthly
 - Chair SARB Meetings, as designated by Command
 - Track training requirements for first response personnel
 - Facilitate monthly victim updates
 - Implement processes improvements and report deficiencies through chain-of-command



Evaluating the Program

- Assist the Senior Mission Commander with implementing commander's victim assistance checklist
- Track fulfillment of training requirements by UVAs, and first responder groups
- Review UVA cases and reports
- Ensure data on incidents is received from responding agencies and reported



Module 4: Management Skills

Learning Objectives

- Describe the Deployable SARC's reporting requirements and proper documentation.
- Identify the training requirements for the Deployable SARC and UVA.
- Define the role of the Deployable SARC in tracking the training requirements of first response groups.



Required Reporting and Data Collection

- Purpose is to track non-identifying data elements in order to identify trends
- All sexual assault incidents need to be tracked if they involve Army personnel, and/or occur on Army property
- Deployable SARC responsible for:
 - Ensuring data is received from responding agencies (i.e., SJA, MP/CID, UVAs, etc.), and reported in sexual assault reporting system
 - Upon returning to post, hand off case files to Installation SARC



Tracking Requirements

The Deployable SARC is responsible for tracking the following:

- Maintaining a roster of current UVAs, including what training has been completed and when.
- Track, at a minimum, what subordinate units require UVAs and deployable SARCs, a roster of those UVAs and deployable SARCs, status of their training, and rotation dates (i.e., PCS and ETS).
- Maintain and publish a monthly on-call roster for UVAs. The on-call roster is distributed prior to the start of the duty month.



Training Responsibilities

The SARC's training responsibilities include:

- Senior level training at installation level to increase awareness of sexual assault issues, high-risk behavior, and victim assistance programs (e.g., off post rape crisis centers).
- Ensure the Sexual Assault Review Board (SARB) receives appropriate training and provide trainings, as needed.
- Assist Commanders in meeting annual sexual assault prevention and response training requirements, including newcomer and orientation briefs.



Scenario #4

A SARC is concerned about an advocate that they met with earlier today, and would like to have him removed as an advocate. Speak with your advocate's CO about your concerns, and explain why you believe it is best for everyone, the advocate, the command and possible victims that the soldier be relieved of his advocates duties.

- What are your feelings in the role of the SARC? The CO?
- What frustrations/expectations do you have of the other's role?
- How can the SARC best approach the CO?



Scenario #5

The SARC is approaching the CO to discuss a UVA who is working with a victim that would like to be sent home. The victim does not feel safe since the assault and has expressed a desire to be near family members. The CO expresses skepticism about the victim's fear, since the victim did not report the incident until 3 days after the assault.

- What are your feelings in the role of the SARC? The CO?
- What frustrations/expectations do you have of the other's role?
- How can the SARC best approach the CO?



Scenario #6



The SARC is briefing the CO on a restricted report. The report involves a 28-year old female SGT who was the victim of an attempted rape while walking back to her quarters last evening. The victim has decided not to report because of feeling “embarrassed” about her “mistake” of taking a short cut through a poorly lit area. The Soldier admits

that she may know who the assailant is, but is afraid of retaliation, especially if the case can’t be proved. She thinks that this same man tried

to rape another woman she knows.

- What are your feelings in the role of the SARC? The CO?
- What frustrations/expectations do you have of the other’s role?
- How can the SARC best approach the CO?